Aid to Tripura

709. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earmarked for Tripura for allotment during the Tenth Five Year Plan for both plan and non-plan expenditure;

(b) the amount released for Tripura upto 31st March, 2004;

(c) the status of the Tripura State's share of the Centre taxes upto 31st March, 2004; and

(d) by when the backlog in allotment as well as release of funds will be made clear?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No plan or non-plan assistance, except for grants under Finance Commissions' recommendations, are earmarked for any State. Grants recommended by Eleventh Finance Commission for Tripura was Rs. 2542.83 crores. Projected Tenth plan outlay of Tripura is Rs. 4500 crores and expected Central Assistance is Rs. 4008 crores.

(b) Finance Commission's grants of Rs. 1989 crores have been released to Tripura upto 30.06.2004. Central Assistance released to Tripura of Tenth Plan, *i.e.,* for first two years (2002-03 & 2003-04) upto 31st March, 2004 is Rs. 1351.12 crores.

(c) Central Taxes and Duties released to Tripura during first four years of XI Finance Commission is Rs. 1040.18 crores.

(d) There is n*o* backlog in release of grants except under Fiscal Reform Facility and upgradation grants. Incentive under Fiscal Reform Facility depends upon achievement by the status of necessary improvement in revenue deficit to revenue receipt ratio and release of upgradation grants on utilization of grants released earlier.

GDP growth rate

710. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country recorded 8.2 per cent growth in the year ending on 31 st March, 2004;